

July 16, 2023

“You Are My Witnesses”

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

GATHERING MUSIC *When Peace Like a River* Jay Althouse

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 119:105-112 The Message Paraphrase

Assisting Minister: By your words I can see where I’m going;
they throw a beam of light on my dark path.

I’ve committed myself and I’ll never turn back
from living by your righteous order.

Everything’s falling apart on me, GOD;
put me together again with your Word.

All: Adorn me with your finest sayings, GOD;
teach me your holy rules.

My life is as close as my own hands,
but I don’t forget what you have revealed.

The wicked do their best to throw me off track,
but I don’t swerve an inch from your course.

I inherited your book on living; it’s mine forever—
what a gift! And how happy it makes me!

I concentrate on doing exactly what you say—
I always have and always will.

OPENING HYMN #715 vv 1-3, 5

Christ Be Our Light

TIME OF HONESTY

Assisting Minister: O Lord, save us from hardness of heart,

All: where your word cannot take root.

Assisting Minister: O Lord, save us from shallowness of mind,

All: where your word withers away.

Assisting Minister: O Lord, save us from the deceitfulness of riches,

All: where your word is choked by everyday cares.

(silent reflection)

Assisting Minister: Lord, grant that our hearts may be fertile soil,

**All: where your word flourishes and yields a harvest,
bringing salvation to ourselves and those about us.**

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven, and you
are renewed by his love and his grace.

All: Amen.

SONG OF RESPONSE

W&P vv 1, 3-4

Bring Forth the Kingdom of God

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WELCOME/LIFE IN COMMUNITY shephills.org

Altar Flowers: Given by Tom and Ruth Felger, "In celebration of their 56th wedding Anniversary."

W.o.W. and Above and Beyond

Update from Mark Gerhardt, Stewarding for Growth

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Commissioning Boundary Waters Campers

SCRIPTURE READING... PSALM 119:105-112 NRSV

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.
I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.
I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.
Your decrees are my heritage for ever;
they are the joy of my heart.
I incline my heart to perform your statutes
for ever, to the end.

Assisting Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL...MATTHEW 13:1-9 NRSV

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE #512 *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*

MESSAGE Dan Beirne, M. DIV.

MESSAGE SONG #546 *To Be Your Presence*

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THANK OFFERING

- To make a gift online to the mission and ministry of Shepherd of the Hills, use this link: shephills.org/give.
- Scan the QR Code with your camera phone to give now.
- By mail, send to 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746



MISSION MOMENT Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)

OFFERING MUSIC *Kyrie from Messe Basse* Gabriel Fauré

PRAYER OF THANKS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day
our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

COMMUNION INVITATION

As we celebrate this sacrament, all are invited to receive the
Risen presence of Jesus.

*God is really present—in bread and wine—forgiving sins and
promising new life.*

*Bread/wafer— “The body of Christ given for you”;
Wine— “The blood of Christ shed for you.”*

COMMUNION MUSIC *Panis Angelicus* Cesar Franck

Soloists: Jonathan Davies and Tara Grove

POST - COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG #547 *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

COMMISSIONING

Assisting Minister: We have been fed and nourished by the Word of God in this place, and we are called and equipped in Jesus' name to serve God's people in the world. We go out in peace and in joy to serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God. And, we will!

POSTLUDE

***Harlech* Wilbur Held**

PRAYERS

We pray for Rodney Varner, Nancy Etzler and Megan Hansen.

We pray for family and friends of Shepherd members:

Krista Bowers, niece of Herb and Kathy Palmer.

Stirling Johnson, granddaughter of Sylvia & Curtis Johnson.

We pray blessings on the youth and adults: Cal Auby, Juliet Auby, Simon Auby, Lila Bishop, Audrey Cullinane, Jake DeVaney, Matthew DeVaney, Ava Enochs, Seth Hansen, Jaime Nichols, Flannery Norman, Ethan Nutter, Peter Walsh, Axel Wissman, Jeff Cullinane, Pastor Lauren Dow Wegner, Tiffany Stein, Christian Wheatley, and Joel Timmons heading to the Boundary Waters later this week. Give them many moments of joy in your presence, of sights and sounds that connect them with your creation, and of growth in faith that is carried with them beyond this experience. Give them safety and health throughout the journey.

Merciful and Loving God, as war and violence rage in Ukraine and other parts of the world, we pray that leaders of the world will practice peace-making, bringing together people of every tribe and race under the umbrella of your amazing grace.

We pray for our global ministry partners: Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala. We pray for Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti.

We pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All, and Upbring Ministries.

We pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

**Prayers for family and friends are listed for 2 weeks,
unless we are notified otherwise.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastors	Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner
Director of Worship/Arts	Kevin McClure
Trumpet	Bob Cannon
Altar Flowers: Given by Tom and Ruth Felger, “In celebration of our 56th Wedding Anniversary.”	
Altar Steward (8:15); (10:45)	Carmen Adams-Schulz
Assisting Minister (8:15)	Sara Enochs; (10:45) Alana Oehler
AV	Bill Dawson, Dave Wegner, Pete Forsberg, Jamie Nichols, Peter Walsh, Jonathan Wolff, Erin Courtney, Devon Schueppert
Bread	Kitt Richter
Communion Assistant	
(8:15)	Sara and Charlie Enochs;
(10:45)	Alana and Charlie Oehler, Carmen Adams-Schulz
Food For Fellowship	Sara Dawson and Ann Watt
Hosts (8:15)	Terrie Thomas; (10:45) Jerry and Anne McDonald
Tellers (10:45)	Jerry and Anne McDonald
Admin Ministry Coordinator	Amanda Forsberg
Campus Operations	Dave Wegner
Communications Director	Dabney Gomes
Program Ministry Coordinator	Joel Timmons
Executive Director	Bill Dawson
Finance Controller	Kevin Marlow
Children's Ministry Coordinator (Interim)	Megan Getman
Spiritual Wellness and Spiritual Director	Rebecca Guengerich

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin TX
www.shephills.org